

COUNTRY East Germany Approved For Release 2006/04/18 : CIA-RDP82-00457R015800080004-9

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TOPIC Soviet Air Force Units in WittenbergEVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

PREPARED

3 December 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

1 - sketch on ditto

REMARKS

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DO NOT CANCEL

1. On 2 September 1952, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne in Wittenberg quartered about 300 men. Trucks [redacted] were seen entering the installation. During the period from 4 to 12 October, the barracks installation quartered an estimated 500 air force soldiers. Up to 300 men were observed doing close order drill in the barracks yard. Four AA guns of a presumed caliber of 76 mm and 10 trucks and 8 tents were observed at an emplacement at the southern edge of the installation. Additional AA guns of a medium caliber were seen in the billeting area. The former AAA emplacement south of the Elbe bridge was being improved; it was still unoccupied. Trucks [redacted] were seen proceeding to and from the installation.

2. During the period from 6 through 15 September, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne quartered about 350 air force soldiers. Much close order drill was observed in the barracks yard. A radio installation of several masts interconnected by antennas with cage-like devices between them was seen at the western edge of the installation. Two to four biplanes and single-engine, high-wing monoplanes were stationed at the auxiliary airfield west of the barracks installation. During the period from 23 September to 4 October, [redacted] any change in the status of the barracks installation and the airfield. At 12:15 p.m. on 1 October, a biplane took off heading northeast. Between 6 and 20 October, the installation quartered an estimated 400 air force personnel. Ten trucks were seen at the southern edge of the installation. Heavy activities were observed in this area, probably the location of an AAA emplacement. The unoccupied AAA emplacements on the Elbe River had apparently been strengthened by beams. [redacted]

3. There was heavy vehicular and passenger traffic between the air force headquarters on Ernst Thaelmann Strasse and the Brueckenkopf Kaserne and to a lesser extent also involving the Flak Kaserne. Soviet women in uniforms have recently been observed in the area of the air force headquarters. [redacted]

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[redacted] 4. During the period from 16 through 24 September, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne quartered about 300 air force soldiers and 80 artillery soldiers. The soldiers were subjected to intensive close order drill; they did much maintenance work on vehicles and were given instruction on aircraft and weapons. Two Yak-11s [redacted] besides two Po-2s [redacted] were seen at the auxiliary airfield. [redacted]

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It appeared that the field was only occasionally used by courier planes. Eight trucks were seen at the AAA emplacement south of the barracks installation. Soldiers were digging foxholes there. At noon on 24 September, about 250 air force soldiers entered the installation. Individual details of soldiers were repeatedly seen marching from the town to the barracks installation. [redacted]

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5. During the period from 17 through 27 October, there was no change in the personnel occupation of the Brueckenkopf Kaserne. [redacted] Po-2 and a Yak-11 [redacted] were observed at the auxiliary airfield. A Yak-11 and a Po-2 took off at 10:50 and 11:05 respectively on 20 October. At 10:37 a.m. on 22 October, the Yak-11 plane took off headed toward Dessau. At 10:05 a.m. on 27 October, the Po-2 took off and returned from the direction of Dessau about 2 p.m. Close order drill and maintenance work was observed at the barracks installation. The roof of a garage and the fence surrounding the barracks installation were being repaired. [redacted]

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[redacted] 6. On 30 September, source observed about 400 air force soldiers at the Brueckenkopf Kaserne; about 150 of them were engaged in close order drill. About 20 trucks were parked west of the vehicle revetments in

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bushes. A van-like truck, from which cables extended to a radar set nearby, was parked at the western edge of the installation. About 100 air force soldiers were being instructed on the set, which was rotating at a constant speed in a counterclockwise direction. The set rotated only in a horizontal plane. No aircraft were observed aloft. In the afternoon, the set was not in operation. A Po-2 painted gray-green was observed in the vicinity of the radar set. [redacted] furnished a sketch of the barracks installation.

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7. On 8 and 9 October, the Brueckenkopf Kaserne quartered about 500 air force soldiers, of which 100 were engaged in close order drill. Maintenance work on vehicles was also observed. Orderly rooms were located in the ground floor of the horse shoe-shaped billeting building in the northeastern corner of the installation. Four to five trucks, one of which was fitted with a rod antenna 2 or 3 meters long, was observed southwest of the installation. Four guns probably of 76 mm caliber and 8 tents were seen near the trucks. A Po-2 and a Yak-14 were parked at the auxiliary airfield. Two masts about 4 meters high with two crossed rods at their tops were observed near a small underground bunker at the auxiliary airfield. Four to 6 insulated wires extended to the ground from the tops of the masts, which were interconnected by wires.³ On 16 October, the installation quartered an estimated 450 to 500 air force soldiers. There was no change in the status of the AA emplacement southwest of the installation. [redacted]

1. [redacted] Comment. According to available information, the Hq of the Southern Fighter Corps of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army is located in Wittenberg. The signal, guard and headquarters units of this headquarters are stationed in the Brueckenkopf Kaserne south of the Elbe River. [redacted] in the report belong to the air force. The motor vehicles observed at the AAA emplacement belong to the Third Gds Mecz Army. A division headquarters of this army is also located in Wittenberg.

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2. [redacted] Comment.

A photograph which was not disseminated confirms the presence of this set. For location of the set, see Annex. The sketch does not indicate all the installations of the Brueckenkopf Kaserne. [redacted]

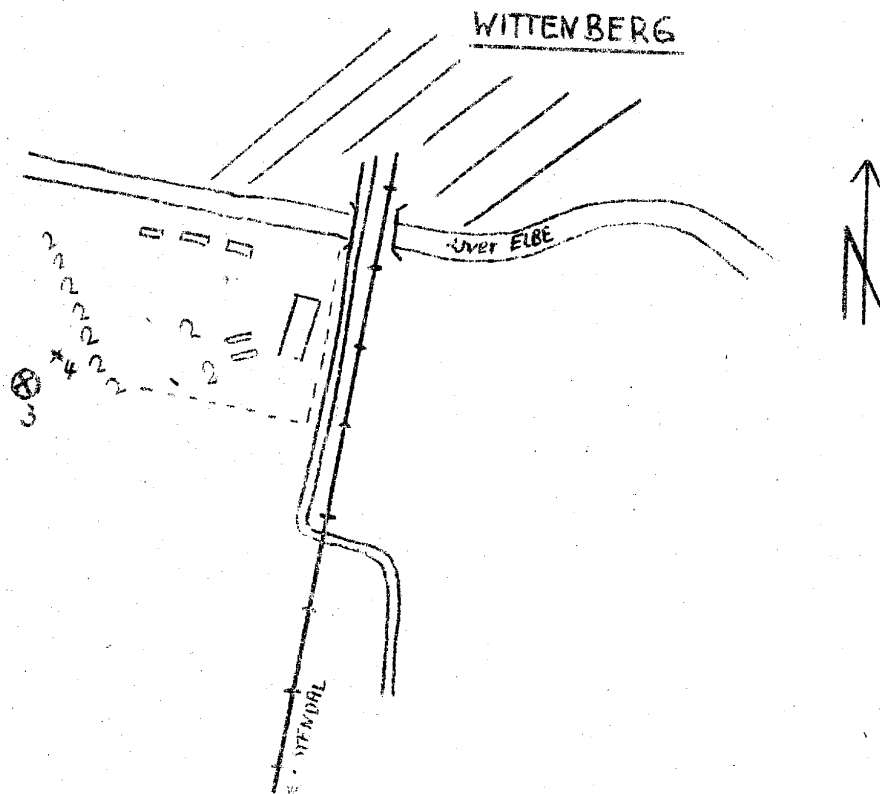
3. [redacted] Comment. This radio installation may be operated by the fighter corps headquarters.

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Annex

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Radars Station on Wittenberg



Legend:

- 1. Urueckenkopf nasenne
- 2. Landing strip for four-engine plane
- 3. Radar set with four groups of dipole
- 4. Radio track

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